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Technical Aid to the Peasants

"Techniczna Obsluga Rolnictwa" (Technical aid to peasants, abbr. TOR) is the organisation busy in reassembling agricultural machines. The central of this organisation is in LODZ. It is divided into palatinate sections which again are divided into district sections. Besides that, in larger villages or estates there are so-called machine parks disposing of all the machines and allotting them to the places where they are needed most. Bribery flourishes in the machine parks - rich peasants for bribe obtain machines and assistance, and the poor ones, who need it most, wait. All the agricultural machines and instruments in the district are registered and subjected to TOR, so that away is the private property of the peasants. Machine parks dispose of them in such a way that they ceased to be private property any more. It is called "neighbourly help".

The mechanics of TOR work only in frame of norms. For each activity - be it the most insignificant - at the reparation of a tractor or of any other machine there is a definite space of time calculated. The work is controlled by the managers of machine parks who pay attention whether the mechanic fulfilled the norm or not. The mechanics try to fulfil the norm being afraid to be stigmatised as economic evil-doers and eventually imprisoned. The system of norms in TOR's itself is controlled by the huge staff of special clerks and calculators. In 1949, the norm for reassemblage of a tractor with change of great part of its gadgets was 190 hours, incl. the turner's work.

The attitude of village population toward these innovations is hos-

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tile but subjected to coercion.

Textile industry

Nadodrzanski Enterprise of Textile Industry

in SZCZECIN

The textile industry in Poland is centralised. In all the palatinate towns and in other larger places there are State factories producing ready-made clothes of all kind. The central of this industry is in LODZ. Two such factories are in SZCZECIN under the name Nadodrzanskie (-above Oder River) Establishments of Textile Industry; now administratively divided into two parts to incite the concurrence of work. In these establishments about 700 women are employed. Men among them are only mechanics and in the direction. The factory works in two shifts, each 8 hours daily. In each factory there is about 50 motor machines and about 300 knife machines. The work only according to norms. The daily norm of one sempstress working at the machine is 70 dressing-gowns.

Because the word "szlafrok" (dressing-gown, morning-gown) is of German, a competition was opened for the new corresponding Polish word. The word "podomek" has been accepted and since then it is used generally in official texts, advertisements, etc.

The norm of 70 dressing-gowns is realised on 10 knife machines operated by 10 sempstresses. New sempstresses obtain in the first 15 days lower (on 30 %) norms to be gradually accustomed to the work. The whole work is mechanised, even the cutting. The women try to do over norms in order to earn more money - their salary of 400 - 500 zl is not sufficient for all necessities of life.

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~~The fulfillment~~ norms is controled. Each shift must have its work finished, because the next shift will not do the rest. Those who work more quickly help to the slower ones, but not from true fellowship, yet because they are specially paid for it. The mechanics do not work according to the norms but, however, they have only 15 minutes time for reparation of the damaged machine. After this time, the delay is written down and for each delay there is cut from their premium. The salaries of the mechanics are strictly determinated and got an additional premium if they had no delays. 25X1

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